

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of
Ibrahim, et al.

Group Art Unit: 1655

Serial No.: 09/444,095

Examiner: Sisson, B.

Filed: November 22, 1999

FOR: Purification Method and Apparatus

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits of the above-identified application, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, between lines 2 and 3, insert

a ---This application claims the benefit of provisional application serial number 60/109,437 filed on November 23, 1998.---

IN THE CLAIMS:

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Rek B

31. (Amended) A method of DNA or RNA purification comprising:
placing a DNA or RNA containing sample and a sample denaturing solution in a first reservoir tube,
inserting a wand into said first reservoir tube, wherein said wand comprises a cap, a sample collection assembly and an elongated shaft connecting said cap to said sample collection assembly, said sample collection assembly having microstructures for increasing the surface area of the sample collection assembly;
securely and sealingly closing said first reservoir tube with said cap of said wand with said shaft and said sample collection assembly inside said first reservoir tube;